



F.K.S. Schools PA Newsletter

Issue 9, July 2011



Dear Parents

This year the Parents' Association has raised an incredible £10,116.00. This would not have been possible without YOUR help and continued support and so a huge THANK YOU to all our parents. Without PA funds many of the extra and fun things the children do and have at School would not be possible so we are really grateful for the support you have given us over the past three terms.


PA events this year included the Christmas Fayre at the end of the Autumn term, a Quiz Night in January, the 'Blooming Marvellous' fund-raising cards plus the fantastic Casino Royale Ball in May. Plus the children have had fun enjoying a Valentines disco, hot lunches, Donut Friday and Hunt the Royal Coin.

So how have PA funds been spent? The list is extensive and includes: two new TV/DVDs; BBC Active materials; a coomber recording machine; a 'Junk Orchestra' workshop for Edwards House and an outdoor games session for Andrews House; the Essex County Council Library book service; props for the school plays; sports equipment; drums; support for the Bikeability and First Aid courses for Year 6 plus their End of Year Party. The PA also organises and funds the Valentines disco and refreshments at a variety of school functions.

Our biggest expenditure this year has been on the Interactive White Board at Edwards House. This equipment is found in the great majority of primary schools and the PA were keen to see FKS children benefit from all that this technology has to offer. The White Board has been hugely popular with the Year 3s (and Miss Clark!) and plans are in place to allow it to be used by the whole of Edwards House in the coming school year. The feedback from children has been very positive and they have commented that it's added a lot of fun to their learning.

The Casino Royale Ball Held on Saturday 7th May at Pontlands Park, the Casino Royale Ball was our Summer Term fundraiser and, wow, what a night! FKS Mums have never looked so good. And some of the Dads looked OK too! Gone was the usual morning drop-off attire of jeans and gym gear and instead we saw an amazing selection of dresses – long, short, slinky, floaty, sparkly, backless, strapless, in every colour under the rainbow plus a few tiaras!! Sincere thanks must go to Simon Olorenshaw (Dad of Harry, Yr 3 and Jessica, Yr 1) for putting together the Bond quiz – there's nothing he doesn't know about 007 and to Mr Nick Carey (Dad of Hugo, Yr 3) for providing his Aston Martin for photos (we did try to get him to donate it as a Raffle prize but ... maybe next time)!

The casino tables did a roaring trade with piles of chips being won and lost throughout the evening. The raffle was very popular – it must have been due to the rather persuasive former FKS pupils selling the tickets; with extra special thanks to Albert Forsey (big brother of Walter, Yr 2) for selling the raffle tickets with such style and contributing to the evening so wholeheartedly! Well done, Mrs Theresa King who won the £250 Debenhams voucher prize.



Many FKS parents donated raffle prizes or sponsored tables: Mr & Mrs Jason Bartella, Mrs Rohini Morzaria, Mrs Tracey Mitchell, Mr Duncan Patmore, Mrs Jane Pretious, Mr Chris Rees, Mr Michael Spink, Mr Michael Canning, Ms Amanda Epstein, Mrs Theresa King and Mrs Leigh Harrison. Local businesses and friends of the School also provided some tremendous prizes: Mr Michael Sharp of Debenhams plc, Mr Ollie Clark of Dunmow Tennis Club, Mr David Newstead of Josephs, Mr Amin of the Raj Mahal, Mr Jono Clark of The Swan, Gemma of Profiles, Jane of Felsted Studio, Emma at 64 Hairdressers, Mr Howard Jardine of Felsted Fitness, Mr Steve Wiggs, Pestells Estate Agency and the Cork House Wine Bar. A big thank you to you all for your generosity; it was much appreciated and enabled us to raise the incredible sum of £3,700.

PA Committee We are delighted to be welcoming the following new members: Tracey Mitchell, Mum of Olivia (Yr 3) and Rory (Yr 1); Susie Olorenshaw, Mum of Harry (Yr 3) and Jessica (Yr 1); Dawn Rankin, Mum of Antonia (Yr 3) and Christian (Reception) and Anne-Marie Shaer, Mum of Joshua (Yr 3) and Thomas (Yr 1).

Sadly we have to say goodbye to Clare Canning, Dorothy Lawrence and Claire Merry. Thank you for all that you have done with the PA and we wish Theo, Nicholas, Kate and Lucy every happiness in their new schools. Also, a huge thank you to the following parents who are leaving the Committee: Davina Harrison (Scholastic Books and Baker Ross co-ordinator), Victoria Senior (Newsletter Editor) and Susan Trembath (former Treasurer and long-standing Sports Teas and School shop co-ordinator). We cannot thank you enough for all your help and time over the past few years.

Finally, the biggest thank you must go to **Lisa Bartella**, our departing Chairperson. Lisa's energy, enthusiasm and organisational capabilities are immense and we are so sad she is leaving. Our very best wishes to Lisa and to Lilli and Fabi in their new school.

More Goodbyes Also, the PA would like to say goodbye to Mrs Woods our Head Teacher and also to Mrs Goodwin, Mrs Smith and Mrs Willoughby. Thank you for your support over the years and we wish you good health, happiness and all the very best for the future.

And now to Fund raising events in the Autumn Term 2011 ... We're hoping to run a Wine Tasting Evening in early October and will let you have details when the children return to School. Plus please make a date of this year's Christmas Fayre – **Friday 25th November**. There will be some great new stalls plus a few of your favourites. So please do keep the morning free to come along – and start telling your friends!

As we come to the end of another School year we would like to say a big thank you for your continued support and to wish you and your families a very happy, relaxed and fun filled Summer holiday.

FKS Parents Association

P.S. The first PA Committee meeting in the Autumn Term will be on Monday 12th September at 2.00pm. New members always welcome!